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(54) **WASHING METHOD FOR MEMBRANE MODULE**

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To efficiently wash a membrane module while suppressing intrusion of a detergent into the filtrate side of this module by applying a pressure by gas below the valve point of a separating membrane from the filtrate side and simultaneously adding the detergent to an original liquid side.

CONSTITUTION: The filtrate side is filled with gas when the membrane is pressurized by the gas from its filtrate side. The pores are, however, filled with the gas as well if this pressure exceeds the valve point pressure (the valve point pressure varies with the pressure

under which air bubbles appear on the secondary side of the sufficiently wetted filter when an air pressure is applied to this filter and the surface tension of the liquid for wetting) and, therefore, the pressure to be applied on the membrane must be lower than the valve point pressure. The valve point value at the time of using water is a reference in the case of the filter original water and detergent of a water system. The membrane surface is chemically washed by filling the original liquid side with a washing chemical in this state. The liquid chemical is penetrated into the pores by a diffusion phenomenon. The membrane module is reproduced by resting the membrane for a specified period of time in this state.

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